I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: April 6, 2010

Electronic Signature for Kevin M. Kocun: /Kevin M. Kocun/

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 3733

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-395 CONT

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Markworth et al.

Application No.: 10/655,440 : Group Art Unit: 3733

Filed: September 4, 2003 : Examiner: M. C. Hoffman

For: SYSTEM FOR USE IN SPINAL

STABILIZATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action mailed February 18, 2010, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.